

I want to take this opportunity to voice my opinion on the proposed elimination of the (716) area code for Wyoming County and surrounding areas. I believe this action will in time add to the decay of business in these areas. By giving the false impression that these areas are near Rochester, potential local customers unaware of the nature of this change, will undoubtedly go elsewhere for their services. Out of town customers will be totally confused and unaware that there is no correlation between this new area code and the region that it services. The unnecessary costs for business and home to update and change all correspondence materials should be enough itself to put a halt to this change! Will employee raises in these areas suffer this year because of this added business expense?

Most in this affected area are mere miles from what will be known as the (716) area. Let's keep Western New York where it has always been. One must wonder just how long it will take for long distance charges to start applying in this new area, and how future elected leaders will find a way use this to their benefit for such issues as appropriating funds for state aid.

If there is an issue of #'s running out, let's have those who can't live without that extra line pay the costs and deal with the hassles. Give them a new area code or amend the (716) by adding another character such as (716*) or (716#) or how about (716www). That's probably the cause for all the concern anyway. Lets give www it's due attention.

About the only positive I see is that telemarketers will be off everyone's backs for a couple of months until they update their automated phone systems. A welcomed reprieve to most I'm sure, but not a just reward for their trouble.

Thank you for your time